

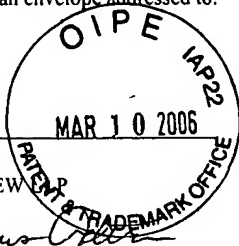
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On March 8, 2006

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Shirborne Barnes



Attorney Docket No.: 015280-457100US

TFW  
PATENT

2621

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Gheorghe IORDANESCU, Ronald  
M. SUMMERS and Juan Raul  
CEBRAL

Application No.: 10/500,342

Filed: December 30, 2004

For: AUTOMATED CENTERLINE  
DETECTION ALGORITHM FOR  
COLON-LIKE 3D SURFACES

Examiner: Not yet Assigned

Art Unit: 2621

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references, in compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2), are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Also enclosed is a copy of the Search/Examination report corresponding to the PCT application.

As provided for by 37 CFR §1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Bart Sullivan  
Reg. No. 41,516

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CBS:sba  
60693792 v1



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/500,342
				Filing Date	December 30, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Iordanescu, Gheorghe
				Art Unit	2621
				Examiner Name	Not yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	015280-457100US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US-5,728,044 A	03-17-1998	Shan	
	AB	US-5,782,762 A	07-21-1998	Vining	
	AC	US-5,920,319 A	07-06-1999	Vining et al.	
	AD	US-5,971,767 A	10-26-1999	Kaufman et al.	
	AE	US-6,246,784 B1	06-12-2001	Summers et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	AF	WO	9832371	A1	07-30-1998	Johnson et al.		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>	
	AG	BITTER, Ingmar et al.; "Penalized-Distance Volumetric Skeleton Algorithm"; <u>IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics</u> ; July-September 2001; pp. 195-206; Vol. 7, No. 3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	AH	CHIOU, Rui C.H. et al.; "An Interactive Fly-Path Planning Using Potential Fields and Cell Decomposition for Virtual Endoscopy"; <u>IEEE Transactions on Nuclear Science</u> ; August 1999; pp. 1045-1049; Vol. 46, No. 4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	AI	GE, Yaorong et al.; "Computing the Centerline of a Colon: a Robust and Efficient Method Based on 3D Skeletons"; <u>Journal of Computer Assisted Tomography</u> ; 1999; pp. 786-794; 23(5).	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	AJ	McFARLAND, Elizabeth G. et al.; "Spiral Computed Tomographic Colonography: Determination of the Central Axis and Digital Unravelling of the Colon"; <u>Acad. Radiology</u> ; May, 1997; pp. 367-373; Vol. 4; Association of University Radiologists.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	AK	PAIK, David S. et al.; "Automated flight path planning for virtual endoscopy"; <u>Medical Physics</u> ; May, 1998; pp. 629-637; Vol. 25, No. 5; American Assoc. of Physicists in Medicine.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	AL	SCHROEDER, W.J. et al.; "Decimation of Triangle Meshes"; <u>Computer Graphics</u> ; July, 1992; pp. 65-70; Vol. 26, No. 2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	AM	SHANNON, C.E.; "A Mathematical Theory of Communication"; <u>The Bell System Technical Journal</u> ; July, 1948; pp. 379-423; Vol. 27, No. 3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A&B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/500,342
				Filing Date	December 30, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Iordanescu, Gheorghe
				Art Unit	2621
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Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	015280-457100US

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	AN	TAUBIN, Gabriel; "Curve and Surface Smoothing Without Shrinkage"; <u>IEEE</u> ; 1995; pp. 852-857.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AO	TRUYEN, Roel et al.; "Efficacy of automatic path tracking in virtual colonoscopy"; <u>CARS 2001</u> ; 2001; H.U. Lemke et al., Editors; Elsevier Science B.V.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AP	WANG, Jie and Yaorong GE; "An optimization problem in virtual endoscopy"; <u>Theoretical Computer Science</u> ; 1998; pp. 203-216; Vol. 207; Elsevier Science B.V.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AQ	WYATT, C.L. et al.; "Automatic segmentation of the colon for virtual colonoscopy"; <u>Computerized Medical Imaging and Graphics</u> ; 2000; pp. 1-9; Vol. 24; Elsevier Science Ltd.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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